

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. There has been a top down decision that all stations air this piece of biased video (as Fahrenheit 911 is biased).

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. Clearly biased programming constitutes political programming in support of a candidate. When large companies control the airwaves, we get decisions made on capitalistic bottom line values and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at some "News Bureau" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.